MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

STUDENT ID NO

MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

FINAL EXAMINATION

TRIMESTER 2, 2016/2017

PEN0055 – ESSENTIAL ENGLISH

(All Sections / Groups)

07 MARCH 2017
2.30 PM – 4.30 PM
(2 Hours)

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENT

1. This question paper consists of **SIX** pages with **THREE** sections only.
2. Answer **ALL** questions in **Sections A** and **B.** Answer only **ONE** question in **Section C**.
3. Write all your answers in the Answer Booklet.

SECTION A: READING AND VOCABULARY [26 MARKS]

Instructions: *Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow.*

Tackling the Global Refugee Crisis: Sharing, not Shirking Responsibility

1 The high-level United Nations (UN) Summit for Refugees and Migrants held in September 2016 was to address the global refugee crisis, a crisis in which, daily, millions fleeing war and **persecution** in countries like Syria, South Sudan, Myanmar and Iraq suffer intolerable misery and human rights violations. Collectively, the world leaders who convened could not solve the global problem. Agreeing to cooperate to address the refugee crisis, while eschewing any specific action, is not progress. Deferring a global plan on refugees to 2018 is not progress. Removing the only tangible target, which is to resettle 10 per cent of refugees annually, is not progress. Not all countries failed, however. A few countries, such as Canada which has accepted 30,000 refugees in the past year, have shown leadership.

2 The UN Summit had a significant aim: to share responsibility for the world's refugees around the world. There are 193 countries in the world and 21 million refugees. More than half of these refugees – nearly 12 million people – are living in just 10 of these 193 countries. This is inherently unsustainable. Countries hosting such high numbers of refugees cannot provide for them. Many refugees are living in grinding poverty without access to basic services and without hope for the future. Not surprisingly, many are desperate to move elsewhere. Some are even willing to risk dangerous journeys to try and find a better life.

3 If all – or most – countries were to take a fair share of responsibility for hosting refugees, then no one country would be overwhelmed. A "fair share" can be based on reasonable criteria such as national wealth, population size and unemployment rate – common-sense criteria which acknowledge that people arriving as refugees will, at first, have an impact on the local population and resources. The 21 million refugees need a place to live safely. The current "formula", accepted by many world leaders, is geographic proximity to war-torn countries, regardless of the capacity of such neighbouring countries. It is hard to imagine a less useful basis for addressing any problem. Nevertheless, that is the basis on which many of the world's leaders are operating.

4 When we break the global refugee crisis down by the numbers, the inequality in the response of states is stark. This is because the problem is not the number of refugees but that the vast majority (86 per cent according to figures from UNHCR, the UN refugee agency) are hosted in low and middle-income countries. Meanwhile, many of the world's wealthiest nations host the fewest and do the least. For example, the UK has accepted approximately 8,000 Syrians since 2011, while Jordan, with a population almost 10 times smaller than the UK and just 1.2 per cent of its GDP, hosts close to 655,000 refugees from Syria. The total refugee and asylum-seeker population in Australia is 58,000 compared to 740,000 in Ethiopia. Such unequal sharing of responsibility is at the root of the global refugee crisis and the many problems faced by refugees.

5 In truth, we are almost nowhere in terms of real responsibility sharing. It is not simply a matter of sending aid money. Rich countries cannot pay to keep

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people "over there". The result is that people who have fled wars are now enduring dehumanising living conditions and dying of entirely treatable diseases. They escaped bombs to die of infections, diarrhoea or pneumonia. Children are not attending school, with devastating consequences for the rest of their lives.

6 In any event, humanitarian appeals to support major refugee crises, such as Syria, are consistently, and severely, underfunded. As of mid-2016, governments around the world had pledged less than 48 per cent of the amount needed by aid agencies to support refugees from Syria. More money is vital, but so is the need to move refugees from places like Lebanon that is overwhelmed.

7 When we look at it from the perspective of individuals affected, the refugee crisis seems enormous, but viewed with a global lens it is solvable. 21 million people represent just 0.3 per cent of the world's population. Finding a safe place for them to live is not only possible but it can be done without any one country having to take in very large numbers. Around 30 countries currently run some kind of refugee resettlement programmes, and the number of places offered annually falls far short of the needs identified by UNHCR. With only around 30 countries currently operating such programmes, there is real scope for positive change. Make it 60 or 90, the situation will improve – and we are not yet up to half the countries in the world. If we can increase the number of countries resettling refugees from 30 to 90, we could make a significant impact on the crisis. More importantly, the lives of the refugees would be significantly improved.

8 So why is this kind of responsibility-sharing not happening? While we know some countries such as Germany and Canada have tried to meet the challenge, there is still the prevailing narrative such as xenophobia, anti-migration, fear and concerns about security in many other countries. The public in some countries are subjected almost daily to misinformation and the scale of the global refugee crisis is not known to them. In addition, the feeling of powerlessness leads people to turn away the refugees.

9 We need to change this, shift it to a narrative of generosity and positivity, one in which we can ensure security and help refugees – we do not need to make a choice. In the face of brutal wars, we can feel like powerless bystanders, overwhelmed by the horror inflicted on our fellow human beings and the seeming impossibility of doing anything about it. However, finding a formula to ensure just 0.3 per cent of the world can go somewhere safe – this we can do. And we must!

Adapted from Shetty, S. (October 2016). *Tackling the global refugee crisis.* Retrieved from https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/campaigns/2016/10/tackling-the-global-refugee-crisis-sharing-responsibility/

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Question 1: Contextual Clues (6 marks)

Instructions: *Provide a word from the reading passage for each definition below.*

Example:	**hostility and ill treatment**	**(paragraph 1)**	**word: <u>persecution</u>**
a)	in a permanent, essential way	(paragraph 2)	
b)	nearness or closeness	(paragraph 3)	
c)	obvious, easily seen	(paragraph 4)	
d)	highly destructive or damaging	(paragraph 5)	
e)	dislike or prejudice against people of other countries	(paragraph 8)	
f)	caused something unpleasant	(paragraph 9)	

Question 2: True or False (5 marks)

Instructions: *For each statement, write (T) if the statement is true and (F) if the statement is false.*

a) Canada has shown its commitment in solving the global refugee crisis.

b) Refugees are free to choose any country to move to as long as the host country can provide a better life for them.

c) The main objective of the United Nations Summit is to ensure equal distribution of refugees among host countries.

d) It is sufficient, at present, to have 30 countries running the Refugee Resettlement Programme.

e) Affected individuals and the rest of the world do not share the same view in resolving the refugee problem.

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Question 3: Comprehension Questions (15 marks)

Instructions: *Answer the following questions.*

a) List three reasons why the world leaders who convened at the UN Summit could not solve the refugee problem. (3 marks)

b) Why is it unsustainable for the 12 million refugees to be distributed among 10 countries? (2 marks)

c) What is the current criterion for a country to host refugees? (1 mark)

d) Explain how unequal sharing of refugee responsibilities happens between rich and poor nations. (2 marks)

e) (i) What does the writer mean by "over there" (line 43)? (1 mark)
(ii) Describe the effects of people who escape from war-torn countries. (3 marks)

f) What factors are stopping other countries to emulate Germany and Canada in helping the refugees? (2 marks)

g) Identify the main idea of paragraph 9. (1 mark)

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SECTION B: GRAMMAR [10 MARKS]

Instructions: *The following extract contains 10 errors in fragment, run-on, faulty parallelism and faulty modifier. Identify these errors and correct them as shown in the example.*

Example:

No	Line	Error	Correction
0	4	...in the Western world. As well as...	... in the Western world as well as...

Why Finland has The Best Schools

The Harvard education Professor, Howard Gardner, once advised Americans, "Learn from Finland, which has the most effective schools and which does just about the opposite of what we are doing in the United States." Finland has a history of producing the highest global test scores in the Western world. As well as a trophy case full of other recent No. 1 global rankings, including most literate nation.

The emotional climate of the typical classroom is warm, supportive, respectful and safety. There are no scripted lessons, no strict instructions and no quasi-martial requirements to walk in straight lines or to sit up straight. As one Chinese student-teacher studying in Finland said, "In Chinese schools, you feel like you're in the military. Here, you feel like you're part of a really nice family." She is trying permanently to figure out how she can stay in Finland.

In Finland, children do not receive formal academic training until reach the age of seven. Until then, many are in day care and learn through play, songs, games and conversation. Most children walk or cycling to school, even the youngest. School hours are short homework is generally light. Unlike in the United States where many schools are slashing recess, schoolchildren in Finland have a mandatory 15-minute outdoor free-play break every hour of every day. Fresh air, green nature and taking regular physical activity breaks are considered engines of learning. According to one Finnish maxim, "There is only no bad weather but inadequate clothing."

Finland does not waste time or money on low-quality mass standardised testing. Instead, children are directly assessed every day. Through observation, check-ins and quizzes by the highest-quality "personalised learning device" ever created - flesh-and-blood teachers.

In class, children are allowed to have fun, giggle and daydream from time to time. The often-cited Finns always put into practice their cultural mantras: "Let children be children," "The work of a child is to play," and "Children learn best through play." In Finland, teachers are the most trusted and admired professionals next to doctors, they are required to have a master's degree in education with specialisation in research and classroom practice.

Adapted from Doyle, W. (March 2016). *This is why Finland has the best schools*. Retrieved from http://www.smh.com.au/national/this-is-why-finland-has-the-best-schools-20160324-gnqv9l.html

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SECTION C: WRITING [24 MARKS]

Instructions: *Write an essay of about 350 words on **ONE** of the topics below.*

a) Parents play a crucial role in bringing up their offspring. Compose an exemplification essay on three ways children can repay their parents' sacrifices.

b) There are several levels of education that students experience in their lives. Discuss the differences between life as a secondary school student and a tertiary level student.

End of Paper